

2ND ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Dibble Data

Vol. 1, No. 24

Dibble General Hospital

Menlo Park, California

9 March 1946

DIBBLE'S PRESENT CO



COL PAUL H. STREIT

DGH A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN DIBBLE

Dibble General Hospital was named for Colonel John Dibble, MC, who according to Army sources was on a military mission in the Southwest Pacific in January 1943, when he lost his life.

The plane, in which Col Dibble was flying, was making a low overwater approach during a storm, preparatory to landing on a small island. It suddenly lost altitude, and before the pilot could recover this drop, the plane plunged into the ocean, killing 18 of the 19 persons aboard.

The naming of Dibble General Hospital was a memorial tribute to one of the first high-ranking medical officers to lose his life in World War II.

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH!

March 15th is the last day to file your 1945 Federal Income Tax Return. If you need help, call on the Personal Affairs Office, Ward 22.

MARCH 2 MARKED DIBBLE'S SECOND YEAR AS AN EYE AND PLASTIC CENTER

WATCH THE BIRDIE!

The DIBBLE DATA expressly thanks T/5 Steve Essaff and T/5 Sherman Ow-yang, of the DGH Photo Lab, for their yeoman work in photography for this anniversary issue.

INTERIM CO



COL W. P. CORR

Ben Bufano, SF Sculptor, Here

Beniamino Bufano, nationally known San Francisco sculptor, spoke with patients in the Rec Hall last Friday, discussing the sculptor's sense of feel and line and emotional reaction to texture. He was especially interested in blind patients, who have discovered new interests in ceramics and sculpturing.

Joe Rosenthal, whose famous photograph of the raising of the American flag on Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima, won him international acclaim, and a LIFE photographer were here to picture the meeting.

◆ Although last Saturday, 2 March, marked Dibble's second anniversary, its first birth pains were heard to the tune of a crosscut saw on the 15th of August 1943. On that day, contractors began clearing the present site for the erection of an unnamed US Army general hospital, later named Dibble General Hospital.

The old Timothy Hopkins estate, on which Dibble now stands, was a luxurious park of oak trees, one more gnarled than the others. Several of the original buildings of the fabled Hopkins' were still standing, and one still does . . . the Commanding Officer lives in it now. That gem of early California architecture withstood the San Francisco earthquake; matter of fact, it's over 70 years old. And the new homes that are being built now can't hold a beam to it.

Within three months, by November 1943, the local citizenry looked with
(Continued on Page 4)

DIBBLE'S FIRST CO



COL W. H. ALLEN

Dibble Data

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9 MARCH 1946

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COMMANDING OFFICER Colonel Paul H. Streit, MC
EDUCATIONAL-RECONDITIONING OFFICER Capt Chester C. Cowdrey, AUS
PUBLICATION OFFICER Lt Doris Todd, WAC
EDITOR S/Sgt David Bush
ASSOCIATE EDITOR T/4 Bonnie Moberly
CIRCULATION MANAGER T/5 Bob Lyon
STAFF REPORTER T/5 Pat Rea
PHOTO CREDITS T/5 Steve Essaff, DGH Photo Lab
CONTRIBUTORS Irene Epstein, T/5 Mike Mayo, PRO Office

DIBBLE GENERAL HOSPITAL'S SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Dibble General Hospital celebrated the second anniversary of its formal opening on 2 March. I should like to wish the staff many happy returns of the day.

Few individuals or institutions can look back upon such a record of accomplishment for a short period of two years. The 15,000th patient was admitted at the Receiving Office of this hospital several weeks ago. Almost everyone of these men and women who has passed through its corridors was wounded in action.

More than 400 blind began their rehabilitation within our walls, and thousands of others have had plastic surgery performed and are now walking agents of praise for the skillful, kindly treatment they received here. Emphasis is still on the patient and his needs.

I should like to thank the Staff of the hospital, both civilian and military, including the numerous volunteer philanthropic agencies, for their loyal, steadfast service, often far beyond the call of duty, which has made possible the splendid record to Dibble.

PAUL H STREIT, Col, MC, Commanding

WINNING CARTOON IN THE PALO ALTO TIMES CARTOON CONTEST



USO-Apostleship Ski Party Is On The Ball-Snow Ball

The Ski Party, shown on page 11 of this issue, took eighteen Dibleers and twenty-two comely girls from the USO-Apostleship of the Sea, into the Sierra snows at Long Barn, California over the February 15th weekend.

Two Days of Fun in the Snow

Arranged by Jack Doyle, Director of the USO-Apostleship chapter, every member of the party had an indescribably good time. For two days they skied, skated, tobogganed and threw snow balls until they were sore all over . . . and we mean sore all over.

Eight members of HTU 1960's band, Presidio of San Francisco, jammed all the way up and jived at a dance for the snow people. Capt Paul Siebenmorgen was medical officer in charge; Mrs. Nadine Harrington was hostess.

ARC ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

The 1946 fund campaign for the American Red Cross opened at Dibble on 1 March, with Col White heading the drive.

According to an announcement, no solicitation may be made of enlisted personnel, but they may renew memberships or make voluntary contributions. All others on the post, including civilians, are urged to contribute to the fund.

The DGH campaign committee includes Col White, Major Eaton, Capt Kunz, Capt Ayer and Mr. Ray B. Krone.

Pfc Len Ingle Wins PALO ALTO TIMES Cartoon Contest

Pfc Leonard F Ingle, discharged last week from Wd 33, won the ten dollar first prize in the PALO ALTO TIMES Cartoon Contest. His sketch of a Dibble ward, reprinted at left, appeared in yesterday's edition of the TIMES.

Wilcox Submits 17 Entries

Second prize was awarded to T/Sgt Fred Wallace, Wd 6, for a cartoon which will be printed in a later issue of DIBBLE DATA. Wallace has already made print with cartoons submitted to OUR ARMY magazine. T/4 Wilfred Wilcox, Wd 10, who inked up a total of 17 entries, took third place. Honorable mention went to Pfc H. L. Smith, Wd 18.

Judges were Col Streit, Lt Ferderber, Mrs Jean Hamilton, OT; Mrs. Cogswill, TIMES editor; and Mr Harry Millet, advertising manager for the TIMES; the DIBBLE DATA handled publicity.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS Still at the Side of the Service Man

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS STAFF AT DIBBLE



These are the girls who willingly serve the GIs here in the recreational and social welfare fields. L to R, 1st row: Madeleva Sullivan, Lucille Storey, Mary Hahn, Maurine Staley, Field Director Martha Barrows, Virginia Smith, Elaine Lipton, Isabel McKay. Second row: Maxine Larsell, Doris Johnson, Eina Bullack, Olga Skeehan, Lois Owen, Connie Grass, Jean Walsh. Third row: Jean Meserve, Joan Shivvers, Doris Lyman, Jane O'Gara, Eunice Crook.

Shirley Morrow is Last of Dibble-Trained Therapists

During February, the last of the Dibble-trained Physical Therapists, Lt Shirley Morrow, was commissioned a 2d lieutenant. She was one of 42 WACs who had their apprenticeship here.

Of the 42, 20 had degrees in physical education, 22 had certain basic science requirements: chemistry, anatomy and physics, in order to be chosen. Physical Therapists are just what their name implies. They help in the business of returning patients to normal health and activity by prescribed use of heat, massage and exercise.

During World War I, the Army realized its need for trained Physical Therapists, incorporating some into the Regular Army after its termination. About half are registered nurses, the rest are college graduates in Physical Education.

During this war, the Army needed more. The students chosen, WACs with the necessary qualifications, were sent to qualified PT schools until the opening of regular Army training schools. After six months spent in intensive study, the trainees were sent to one of several Army hospitals for 3 months apprenticeship. Upon the successful completion of the courses and applicatory training, all were commissioned 2d lieutenants.

NYLONS FOR WACS!

Dibble WACs lucky enough to be in the Army in April will be eligible for three pairs of nylon hose each, according to an announcement by the Quartermaster General. The girls should receive three pairs every three months if regular issue regulations are maintained.

Got Anything To Sell?

Ever check the Red Cross Service list in the lounge? Need anything? Want to sell anything?

The list offers everything for sale from a "Novaclub, adjustable for trailer" to "desire to rent services of accordian player and violinist" for a dance band.

Other listings include Lost and Found, special entertainment, athletic contests, free show and concert tickets, ice skating and bull sessions at Professor Bonney's.

A Shopping Service available for patients confined to bed is ready to help at any time.

The Smith's Are In Again!

The first Army Air Force Liaison Officer at Dibble was Major Roland C. Smith. His successor was Major Rollin C. Smith. That wasn't so bad.

But last week the War Department went the whole hog. Yup, you guessed it . . . the new AAF liaison Officer will be Major Robert C. Smith!

Civilian Personnel Lists Jobs And Pay Offered Gls

Of special interest to military personnel about to be discharged, and who wish to replace themselves in a civilian capacity at Dibble, are the following positions which are open, and the salary ranges.

X-Ray, dental and medical technicians rate SP-5, salary from \$2100 to \$2496 per annum, base pay for 40-hour week.

Pharmacist ratings, P-1, pay \$2320 to \$2980. Orthopedic mechanics get from \$1.21 to \$1.47 per hour; Maintenance Repairmen—\$1.04 to \$1.22; Ward Attendants—90c to \$1.05; Truck Drivers—88c to \$1.08.

Cooks, bakers, butchers, clerical or administrative workers can check with Section Supervisors on salary ranges.

All salaries quoted are based on a 40-hour week. Authorized overtime will be time and a half.

Dibble Stamp Club

Under the auspices of the American Red Cross, a Dibble Stamp Club is now in formation. The RC Recreation Office has thousands of cancelled postage stamps, foreign and domestic, for members. Stamp albums and hinges are available also.

Twice monthly, talks on stamps are given by philatelists and dealers. Bed patients may get stamps and stuff from the Gray Ladies.

IN TWO YEARS DIBBLE HAS ADMITTED OVER 15,462 GI'S, DISCHARGED 13,604

(Continued from page 1)

amazement as the multi-colored buildings sprang up. Alternately a dust bowl and a sea of mud, it took almost a year to contain and control the inroads of dust and rain. Lawns and paved streets eventually made them disappear.

First to Brave the Wilds

The first officers to brave the wilds of Dibble in those early days were Colonel William H. Allen, first Commanding Officer, Lt Col T.W.E. Christmas, first Executive Officer, Major Eaton, Post Engineer, Major Curtis, the Quartermaster, and Major Webber, Director of Supply. Eight or nine hardy casualties like M/Sgt Ray Williamson were on hand, too. At that time, Headquarters was located in the building than now serves as the NCO Club; its interior was a lot more primitive then. A cadre of twenty-five enlisted men from Bushnell General Hospital came in October, followed by fifty from Letterman in November, fifty more from Boise Barracks in December. They had the back-breaking job of bringing order out of chaos.

In December of that year, the first patients were admitted to the hospital facilities, all from Stanford University's military ASPT Units. Not until Washington's Birthday in 1944, did our first convoy appear.

And on that day it rained. And how it rained! But the patients, just off the

boats from the New Guinea battle areas grinned in relief . . . rain, hell, it never rains in California!

From the original bed capacity of 1727 to its present one of 2360, Dibble's Receiving and Evacuation Office had admitted 15462 patients, discharged 13604 as of 28 February 1946. Begun as a duplicate of the Army's Valley Forge General Hospital in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, Dibble is one of the two eye centers in this country. Later it was established as a specialty center for plastic surgery, blind rehabilitation, neuropsychiatry and orthopedics.

Extensive Use of Pedicle

Plastic surgeons here were among the first to put to extensive use the tube graft or pedicle. Its orthopedic brace shop is one of the few in the country designed to fit specially-built shoes for men with foot injuries.

In November of 1944, the first enlisted WACs showed up, but it was not until June 1945 that the first WAC Hospital Company, the 84th, was formed, followed closely by the 124th in July. Only the 84th now remains, WAC strength here now being 156.

The Enlisted Detachment 1985 SCU roster has fluctuated from a high of 638 to its present strength of 398 EM. There are about 140 officers and 200 nurses now in attendance, with approximately 700 civilians employed in the hospital.

CIVIL TONGUES

Vera Underwood, Dibble Civilian Employees' association prexy, sez the dance given at Mills Hall was a success . . . thinks special thanks, orchids and stuff should go to Capt Mary Jo Kunz, Mills Hall officer; Capt Hussey, PX officer; and Mrs. Cooley of the PX, for their part in making the dance so enjoyable.

Dotty Lockwood, of Finance, became Mrs Herbert Lidstrom in a lovely ceremony in the post chapel last Thursday, 28 Feb. They departed immediately for New York, Dotty to become a home-maker, the lieutenant to become a mister.

Flo Traikoff had sister Post Engineer employees over to her home in San Jose recently for a merry shindig. Flo's a little reticent about telling her bowling score, but those gals from PE haven't done badly in the league at all, at all.

Don't see how Betty Bloom, of Payroll, can keep her mind on her work, but we hope she does. Boy, do we need that check this week! Her hubby, Char-ulls, phoned her at 3 ayem and sed he'd be home in a couple days. He's a merchant marine officer and long-time-no-see-Betty. Incidentally, Ruthie Reimer of Payroll—that tall, good-looking gal—departed without fuss and fanfare last week after two years at Dibble. Ruth deserves orchids for her splendid work as Payroll head. She's gonna visit Ruth Kirby—another Dibble alumna—in Tahnya, Washington.

THE DGH CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FAMILY TOTALS OVER 700



Here is only part of the large civilian personnel who are fast taking over as the Army Demobilization Program whittles away at remaining GIs. Yes, that's Mr. Harvey, surrounded by his girls, as usual.

TOP-NOTCH ENTERTAINERS WHO STOPPED AT DIBBLE



Tony Romano and Frances Langford



"Doctor" Jerry Colonna



Tallulah Bankhead and friend



Eddie Cantor moanin' low



Dr. Jekyll? Nope—Bob Hope!



Jack Benny HAS Muscles!



The Tree Grineers—Gerald Wade, Joe E. Brown and the Colonel



Alec Templeton, with Edward Arnold's aid, beats it out

OUR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

These are the girls who loosen up stiffened muscles, put the zing back where it belongs. 1st row: Lts Zufelt, Higgins, Capt Wallace, Chief, Lt Coyner. 2nd row: Lts Dittman, DesPrez, Welch, Postel.

THE DGH ARMY NURSE CORPS

Headed by Major Margaret P. Hession, Dibble's corps of Army nurses numbers about one hundred ninety, of which only one-quarter are pictured above. They are a chipper, jolly bunch according to our patient personnel . . . the duty personnel can add even more. They are regular guys, good Joes . . . and coming from GIs, that's saying plenty.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT DIETITIANS

Chiefly responsible for our hospital chow and Army tummies are the Dietitians. 1st Row: Lts Dore, Littler, Goldberg, Brewer, 2nd Row: Lts Morley, Newell, Heard, Acting Chief, Greene, Huse. Not in the group is Lt Nelson.

THE DIBBLE GENERAL HOSPITAL STAFF

Nothing short of the Commanding Officer's Conference can ever get Dibble's staff together at any one time . . . and no wonder. Spread out over nine miles of hospital corridors and grounds we suspect that many of them might not even have met each other . . . although each knows where the Officers' club is.

One hundred twenty-six of Colonel Streit's staff are shown here. That's not quite all we boast of, some twenty-odd being elsewhere on this day when the sun shone brightly. When Dibble first saw the light of day in the Fall of 1943, only two of our present officers were here to greet it, Majors Curtis and Eaton.

DIBBLE'S EW, THE 84TH WAC HOSPITAL COMPANY (ZI)

DGH MENLO MAIDS PLACE 4TH IN NSC BASKETBALL TOURNEY

The DibWAC hoop team trailed in at fourth place with one win and two losses, in the Ninth Service Command Girls' Basketball Tournament played at Letterman GH, 25-28 February.

In the finals, Ogden Utah ASF raced through four days of undefeated play to win the tournament. Letterman edged a tight victory over Ft Mason to cop second place.

First round of the competition set the Menlo Maids against the Letterman six on Monday afternoon, with Dibble going down 40-33. Tuesday saw the DibWACs nose out Seattle's Ft Lawton in a hard-fought event, 30-23. The home six dropped out of competition with a 26-16 defeat delivered by Ft Mason on Wednesday night.

WACs Can Reenlist Now

Ex-Wacs who want to remain on military duty may now reenlist, NSC Headquarters has announced. Applications may be submitted to Capt Schummers, Recruiting Officer, on Ward 22.

Applicants will be reenlisted in the grade held at the time of discharge, but they must volunteer to remain in service either for the duration plus six months, or until 30 September 1946. Volunteers must meet the standards set for enlistment in effect August 1945, except that the age limit is raised to 49, must waive all right to discharge because of marital status or age.



The Menlo Maidens, or more commonly known as the DibWAC Basketball Team, just back from the Hoop Wars, where they finished a fighting fourth. L to R, 1st row: Kelly, Shinn, Freeland, Morrow, Moberly, Hunting. 2nd row: Lt. Fuchs, CO; McClure, Dittman, Sargent (captain), Swanson, Lanting, Lt Todd, coach.



Here are the WACs . . . trim, efficient and, we suspect, quite feminine. There should be 156 of them, but we couldn't catch them all. First WAC drifted in here about November 1944; first WAC Hospital Company, the 84th, formed in June 1945, all under the watchful baton of Lt Pearl Fuchs, WAC Commanding Officer.

THE DGH ENLISTED MEDICAL DETACHMENT, 1985 SCU



Dibble's crop of NCO's, many of whom are now civilians. L to R, 1st row: Dwyer, Klar, Beatty, Marinkovich, Conlon, Marsh, McCarthy, Hopp. 2nd row: Vucoovich, Malatesta, Bush, Kesler, Natalizio, Lt "Chuck" Ferderber, CO; Rutz, Dickinson, Kennedy, Tracy. 3rd row: Kinchen, Wescoat, Williamson, Kleinman, Glassman, Beckstead, Crumpley, Harkov, Goldenberg.



LOCAL CASABA SQUAD ENDS TOUGH SEASON IN 3RD SPOT

Winding up the local basketball season on Thursday, 28 February, the Dibble Dribblers defeated the Palo Alto Collins Club, 42 to 39. Hulse of Dibble was high point man with a total of 18 markers. Riley of the CC netted 12 points.

Won 12, Lost 4

The local casaba squad ended the season in third spot of the strong Palo Alto Commercial League. The won-lost record for the Dibble men was 12 won and 4 lost. The Dribblers' offensive record was 554 for the season as against 384 for their opponents.

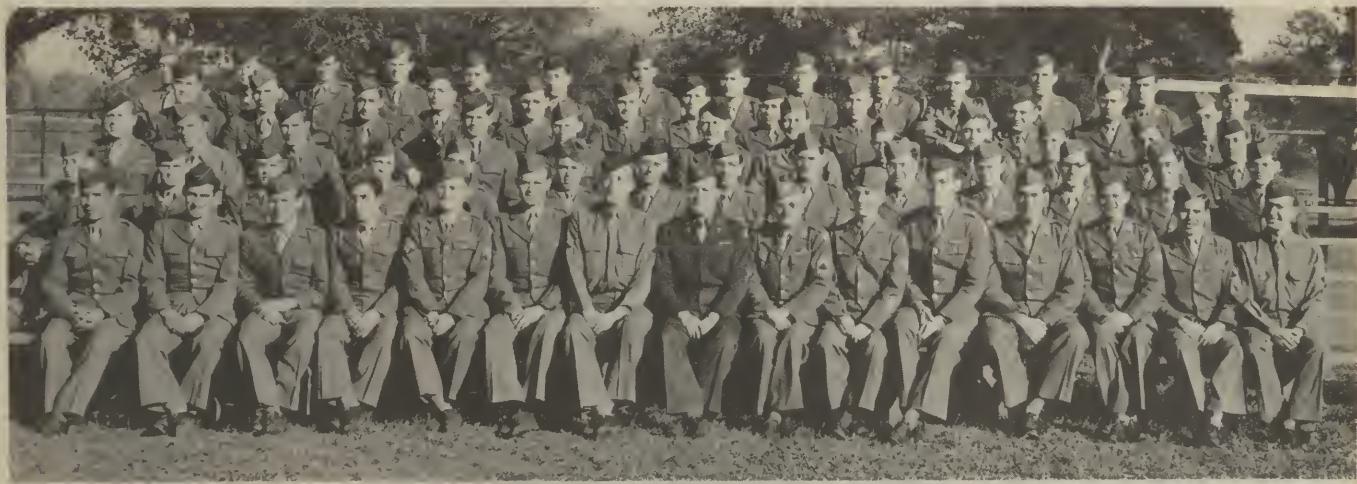
On 4 February, Dibble defeated the Hewlitt-Packard five by a 47 to 24 margin. Kenney, of the Dribblers, led the scoring with 15 points. Half time was 21 to 11 in favor of Dibble.

MORE DETACHMENT EM LEAVE

The second portion of the hospital's enlisted detachment eligible for discharge, numbering 82, will leave here during March for separation centers. The remaining portion of the 30 April eligibles, about 90, will depart in April.

Those enlisted men who are technicians in the scarce category, namely X-Ray, orthopedic mechanics, dental lab and medical lab, are now eligible for release if they have the necessary discharge criteria and are surplus to the hospital's needs.

SUPPORT THE 1946 A.R.C. DRIVE



This is the Enlisted Detachment 1985 SCU, 398 strong today, although not all are in the pictures above. On 7 June 1945, they were awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque by the Commanding General, NSC, for "superior performance of duty." Lt Charles Ferderber, MAC, is Company Commander of this sterling group.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TURNS TENSION INTO ENERGY



Working on a leather wallet



Stiff fingers limber up
on the loom



Could be embryo Bufano's?



Ceramics? Certainly!



Crisp, fresh, easy to look at . . . Dibble's OT Staff, headed by Miss Hazel Donelson, helps GIs forget purple-hearted fractures.



Whittling Willie



A plug for Phiz-ed . . .



"Pop" Kemp will teach you the fundamentals of printing



Who is this guy Hogan?

SIERRA SKIING WITH PATIENTS AND PRETTY USO GIRLS



L-You can't keep a good man down
... for long



R-This gal signaled for a right turn
... and turned right!



The rugged outdoors!



This is the ski hill at Long Barn's ... nifty!



All this ...
and skiing too!



Now let's see ...



Y'see,
it's this way ...



Even the snow man was there

"Honey, How I Love You"
Bristow



"How the h . . . !"



Homeward bound . . . and happy

HERE IS A ROUGH IDEA OF YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

